

Our Reference: MBT-115-B

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Stephen N. Brailsford et al.
Serial Number:	Unknown
Filing Date:	Concurrent
Examiner/Group Art Unit:	Grant, Alvin J./3723
Title:	RING OPENER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents  
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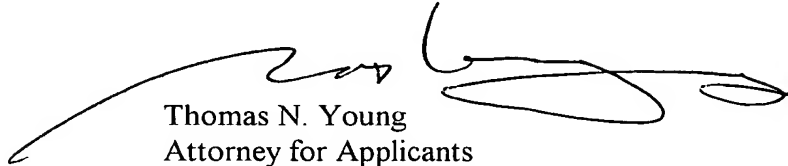
Sir:

The references listed in the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are cited pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to meet the duty to disclose to the Patent Office all information known to the inventor, attorney or any other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application or who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

If a copy of any patent, publication or other information listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, a copy is not provided with this Statement provided that the prior application is properly identified and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. The prior application in this instance is U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/307,598, filed on December 2, 2002, for "RING OPENER."

These references constitute all the information of which the individuals pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) are currently aware.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Young', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Dated: December 3, 2003  
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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1

of

2

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Application Number	Unknown
Filing Date	Concurrent
First Named Inventor	S. N. Brailsford
Art Unit	3723
Examiner Name	Grant, Alvin J.
Attorney Docket Number	MBT-115-B

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 1,519,816	12-16-1924	Ward	
		US- 1,558,418	10-20-1925	Wendel	
		US- 1,578,627	03-30-1926	Baumgarten	
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		US- 4,667,544	05-26-1987	Milo	
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		US- 5,133,233	07-28-1992	Erwin	
		US- Des 337,708	07-27-1993	Morris, Jr.	
		US- Des 347,152	05-24-1994	Mohawk et al.	
		US- 5,329,832	07-19-1994	Tegethoff	
		US- 5,347,890	09-20-1994	Rufkahr	
		US- Des 373,941	09-24-1996	Davis	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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[illegible][illegible]Date  
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